

REMARKS

The present paper is submitted as a preliminary amendment following the filing of an RCE on July 11, 2006. The RCE was filed following a Final Office Action dated May 19, 2006.

Interview:

Applicants wish to express appreciation to the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the case with Applicants' undersigned representative on August 9, 2006. During the interview, the Examiner proposed some amendments that appear to overcome the cited prior art such as defining in the claims what is the smooth portion in terms of roughness.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-3 and 17-21 are pending. Previously presented claims 35-37 have been canceled. Independent claims 1 and 17 have been amended to delete recitation of the term "packaging." Independent claim 1 has been further amended to recite: "wherein the smooth portion of the conductive foil has a surface roughness of less than about 0.8 micron, wherein said smooth portion surface roughness is less than the surface roughness of the other side of the conductive foil." Independent claim 17 has been further amended to recite: "wherein said second electrical contact pad has at least one side having a smooth portion thereof wherein the smooth portion of the second electrical contact pad has a surface roughness of less than about 0.8 micron, wherein said smooth portion surface roughness is less than the surface roughness of the other side of the second electrical contact pad." Support for these amendments can be found, for example, in applicants specification, paragraphs [0031] to [0033].

Each of the pending claims defines an invention that is novel and unobvious over the cited art. Favorable consideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claims 1 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1 and 17 have since been amended to delete recitation of the term "packaging." Applicants submit that this rejection is obviated in view of this amendment.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Claims 1-3, 35, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Onda (JP-03296238). Claim 1 has since been amended to recite “wherein the smooth portion of the conductive foil has a surface roughness of less than about 0.8 micron, wherein said smooth portion surface roughness is less than the surface roughness of the other side of the conductive foil.” Applicants submit that Onda fails to teach or suggest the recitation of amended claim 1. Claims 35-36 have since been canceled.

Claims 1-3, and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurabe (6,291,081). Applicants submit that Kurabe fails to teach or suggest the recitation of amended claim 1. Claim 35 has since been canceled.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Claims 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Elenius (6,441,487). Claim 17 has since been amended to recite “wherein said second electrical contact pad has at least one side having a smooth portion thereof wherein the smooth portion of the second electrical contact pad has a surface roughness of less than about 0.8 micron, wherein said smooth portion surface roughness is less than the surface roughness of the other side of the second electrical contact pad.” Applicants submit that Elenius fails to teach or suggest the recitation of amended claim 17.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claim 37 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onda. Claims 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurabe. Claims 36 and 37 have since been canceled.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication, including any extension fees or fees for the net addition of claims, to Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ, LLP

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